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Edited by

FRANCIS HEMMING, C.M.G., C.B.E.

Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature

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BULLETIN OF ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

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22nd October 1954

NOTICES PRESCRIBED BY THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ZOOLOGY

The following notices are given in pursuance of decisions taken, on the recommendation of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature (see 1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **4** : 51-56, 57-59), by the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology, Paris, July 1948 (see 1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **5** : 5-13, 131).

(a) Date of commencement by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature of voting on applications published in the " Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature "

NOTICE is hereby given that normally the International Commission may start to vote upon applications published in the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* on the expiry of a period of six calendar months from the date of publication in the *Bulletin* of the applications in question. Any specialist who may desire to comment upon any of the applications published in the present Part (Vol. 9, Part 9) of the *Bulletin* is accordingly invited to do so in writing to the Secretary to the Commission, as quickly as possible and in any case, in sufficient time to enable the communication in question to reach the Secretariat of the Commission before the expiry of the six-month period referred to above.

Notices prescribed by the International Congress of Zoology (continued)

(b) Notice of the possible use by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature of its Plenary Powers in certain cases

1. NOTICE is hereby given that the possible use by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature of its Plenary Powers is involved in applications published in the present Part of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* in relation to the following names:—

- (1) *Discoides* ; *Cerebratulus* ; *Polycitor* ; *Scolixedion* ; all being generic names in Renier [1804] *Prospetto* (now rejected for nomenclatorial purposes), question of validation of (Z.N.(S.)832) ;
- (2) *Aglaea* ; *Alcyonaria* ; *Cystia* ; *Rodens* ; *Tuba* ; *Tubulanus* ; all being generic names in Renier [1807] *Tavola* (now proposed to be rejected for nomenclatorial purposes), question of validation of (Z.N.(S.)688) ;
- (3) Names (generic and specific) given to aptychi of Ammonites, proposed suppression of (Z.N.(S.)589) ;
- (4) *Notropis* Rafinesque, 1818 (Cl. Osteichthyes, Order Cyprinida), proposed determination as of masculine gender of (Z.N.(S.)663) ;
- (5) *Cheloniceras* Hyatt, 1903 (Cl. Cephalopoda, Order Ammonoidea), proposed designation of type species for, in harmony with accustomed nomenclatorial usage (Z.N.(S.)703) ;
- (6) *Argus* Bohadsch, 1761 (Cl. Gastropoda), proposed retention of status for the purposes of the Law of Homonymy (Z.N.(S.)714) ;
- (7) *minimus* Miller (J. S.), 1826, as published in the combination *Belemnites minimus* (Cl. Cephalopoda, Order Dibranchia), proposed validation of (Z.N.(S.)823).

2. Attention is drawn also to a request published in the present Part for the adoption of a *Declaration* that a generic or specific name based solely upon the "aptychus" of an ammonite be excluded from availability under Article 27 of the *Règles* (Z.N.(S.)589).

3. Comments received in sufficient time will be published in the *Bulletin* : other comments, provided that they are received within the prescribed period of six calendar months from the date of publication of the present Part, will be laid before the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature at the time of commencement of voting on the application concerned.

4. In accordance with the arrangement agreed upon at the Session held by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature in Paris in 1948 (see 1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 4 : 56) corresponding Notices have been sent to the serial publications *Nature* and *Science*.

FRANCIS HEMMING,

Secretary to the International Commission on
Zoological Nomenclature.

28 Park Village East, Regent's Park,
LONDON, N.W.1, England.

22nd October 1954

APPLICATION FOR A RULING THAT WORKS CREDITED
TO S. A. RENIER AS OF THE DATES 1804 AND 1807 WERE
NOT PUBLISHED WITHIN THE MEANING OF ARTICLE 25
OF THE "RÈGLES"

By A. MYRA KEEN

(Stanford University, Stanford, California, U.S.A.)

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)688)

In a recent petition Dr. L. R. Cox (Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)432)¹ asks that "the *Prodromo* of S. A. Renier and the *Prospetto della Classe dei Vermi* (dated 1804) prepared by that author for inclusion in the *Prodromo*" be rejected as not having been duly published.

2. The present petition requests that the Commission consider the larger problem of all of Renier's uncompleted works dated 1804 and 1807. As Dr. Cox's petition did not take into account the generic and specific names involved, it seems well to review these in some detail.

3. The term "Prodromo" apparently was used only informally if at all by Renier, for the word does not appear in the photostatic copy of Renier's works now in Stanford University library, a copy formerly owned by C. D. Sherborn. In his *Index animalium* (sect. 2, vol. 1, 1922), Sherborn cites the titles of these works thus :

Prodr. osserv. Venezia 1804-7 (not published except as the three following) :

Tavola alfab. Conch. Adriat. 1804.

Prosp. classe dei Vermi. 1804.

Compendium di Zoologia (does not exist except as the following) :

Tavola per servire. conosc. classif. Anim. 1807 ; (Ed. 2, 1820, quoted by Meneghini in Oss. post. 1847, 114).

The *Nomenclator Animalium Generum et Subgenerum* of Schulze, Kükenthal, and Heider (vol. 1, 1926) cites these titles somewhat differently :

Tavola Alfabetica delle Conchiglie Adriatiche nominate dietro il sistema di Linneo, Edizione di Gmelin. Padua, 1788.

Prodromo di Osservazioni sopra alcuni Esseri viventi della Classe dei Vermi abitanti nell' Adriatico, nelle Lagune e Litorali Veneti—Prospetto della Classe dei Vermi. Padua, 1804.

Tavole per servire alla classificazione e connoscenza degl' animali. Padua, 1807.

4. The only contemporary mention of Renier's work I have found is by G. B. Brocchi (1814, *Conchilologia fossile Subappennina* 1 : 55 [free translation]) :

... Signor Renieri, professor of natural history at the University of Padua, having been engaged for several years in the study of the organisms of the Adriatic, has provided me the opportunity of consulting the very rich series of shells which he collected in this sea and on which he published the Catalogue in 1804. . .

Brocchi's book, published in Milan (not far from Padua), had wide circulation

¹ A decision has now been taken on Dr. Cox's application (1951, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 2 : 299-300) and has been embodied in *Opinion* 316, which it is hoped to publish at an early date.

in Europe, and hence it carried some of Renier's zoological names with it. Save for citations from Brocchi, I find no further mention of Renier's early papers until 1847 when in another nearby Italian city, Venice, two authors, Meneghini and Nardo, published works based on Renier's manuscripts. As I have not been able to consult these, I quote the titles from Engelmann (*Bibliotheca zool.*, Bd. 1, 1861 : 273-4) :

Renier, St. A., *Osservazioni postumi di zoologia Adriatica, pubblicati per cura dell' I. R. Istituto Veneto di scienze, lettere ed arti a studio del Prof. Meneghini. Con 16 tavole color, e 16 tavole nere. Venezia . . . 1847. Fol. In 100 Exemplaren gedrückt.*

Nardo, Giov. Domin., *Fauna marina volgare del Veneto estuario. Venezia, 1847. 8.*

— *Prospetto della Fauna marina del Veneto Estuario. Venezia, 1847. 8.*

Hence, the date of validation of most of Renier's zoological names would seem to be 1847. One may question whether even Brocchi considered the names to have been published, for he cited no page references for the names of the species that he attributed to Renier, in marked contrast to the careful documentation given the names of species described by previous authors.

5. Renier's first work, the " *Tavola alfabetica . . .*" is assigned the date 1788 by Engelmann (*op. cit.* : 831) and by Schulze, Kükenthal, and Heider. This is manifestly incorrect, for the sections of Gmelin's edition of *Systema Naturae* to which it refers did not appear until 1790. In this *Tavola*, which consists of plates numbered 1 to 13, no new generic names were proposed, but Renier credited to himself many new trivial names, with footnote discussions. Although most of his descriptions are inadequate, references to previously published figures document a number of names. Fortunately, most of the figures had already been acceptably named by other authors. At least three of Renier's specific names, however, still crop up occasionally in lists—*Tellina serrata*, *Solecurtus candidus*, and *Eulima incurva*. The first two are absolute *nomina nuda* in the *Tavola*. *Tellina serrata* was validated by Brocchi, 1814, and should be attributed to him. For *Solecurtus candidus* (*Solen candidus* Renier) the synonym *S. scopula* Turton, 1822 has been adopted by Winckworth (1932, *J. Conch.* 19 : 246). Winckworth credited *Eulima incurva* (*Helix incurva* Renier, based on two published figures) to Bucquoy, Dautzenberg, and Dollfus, 1893, though one would wonder whether it may not have been validated earlier by Meneghini or Nardo. Some 40 other of Renier's specific names are listed by Bucquoy, Dautzenberg and Dollfus (1882-1898, *Mollusques Marins du Roussillon*) as synonyms. Hence, none of the names in the *Tavola alfabetica* seems in need of conservation.

6. The pages of the *Prospetto della Classe dei Vermi . . .* are numbered as plates 15 to 26. Several new generic and trivial names are proposed :

Discoides (sole species, *D. mutans* Renier, briefly described).

Polycitor (based on four species of which two are previously described, *Alcyonium schlosseri* Pallas, 1766, and *A. conicum* Olivi, 1792, renamed by Renier).

Scolixedion (sole species *S. penulatum* Renier = *Serpula arenaria* Linnaeus, 1758).

Cerebratulus (based on two species, *C. bilineatus* Renier and *C. marginatus* Renier, both briefly described).

Aglaia (sic), *Rodens*, *Tricoelia* (sic), *Tubulanus* (*nomina nuda*).

7. As I have shown elsewhere (1951, *Nautilus* 65 (No. 1) : 8-15), the third work of Renier, the "Tavole," consists of eight synoptic tables covering five of the eleven classes into which he divided the animal kingdom. Names credited by Renier to himself appear in four of the tables:

Alcyonaria (based on *Alcyonium palmatum* Pallas, 1766, and *A. digitatum* Linnaeus, 1758).

Acicula (sole species, *A. macula* Renier, briefly described).

Rodens (sole species, *R. armillatus* Renier, briefly described).

Tricelia (sole species, *T. variopodata* Renier, briefly described).

Tuba (sole species, *T. divisa* Renier, briefly described).

Tubulanus (sole species, *T. polymorphus* Renier, briefly described).

Cystia (based on two species, *C. nivea* Renier, undescribed, and *Ostrea bullata* Born, 1778).

Arenaria (homonym of *Arenaria* Brisson, 1760).

Aglaja (based on two species, *A. picta* Renier and *A. tricolorata* Renier, both described).

Discoides (sole species, *D. nutans* Renier, briefly described).

Cerebratulus, *Marginella*, *Imisia*, *Scolixedion* (*nomina nuda*).

8. Had these unfinished works of Renier been validly published in the years 1804 and 1807, the following generic names would be available for use: *Acicula* (1807), *Aglaja* (1807), *Alcyonaria* (1804), *Cerebratulus* (1804), *Cystia* (1807), *Discoides* (1807), *Polycitor* (1804), *Rodens* (1807), *Scolixedion* (1804), *Tricelia* (1807), *Tuba* (1807), and *Tubulanus* (1807). The question arises, how many have found their way into the literature? Of the names that fall within Mollusca—*Aglaja*, *Cystia*, *Discoides*, and *Scolixedion*—only *Aglaja* is in use, type genus of the family AGLAJIDAE (Gastropoda, Opisthobranchiata). It was adopted by Pilsbry in 1895 on the assumption, from the testimony of Meneghini, 1847, that it had priority over the long used *Doridium* Meckel, 1809. One may note that more specific names have been proposed under *Doridium* than under *Aglaja*, but readoption of *Doridium* might cause some confusion, as the family name DORIDIIDAE Bergh, 1893, is regrettably similar to DORIDIDAE, name of another family of Opisthobranchiata (type genus, *Doris*). Rejection of *Aglaja* Renier might also have repercussions in other fields of zoology, for there is an *Aglaja* Eschscholtz, 1825 in Coelenterata and *Aglaia* Swainson, 1827, in Aves (*fide* Sherborn). The question of conserving the name *Aglaja* is here left open for the expression of opinion by interested persons. *Discoides* is a *nomen dubium*, usually regarded as a synonym of *Pleurobranchus* Cuvier, 1804. *Cystia*, if validated, would displace *Limatula* Wood, 1839, and *Scolixedion* would displace *Serpulorbis* Sassi, 1827. In Mollusca, then, only *Aglaja* might justifiably be made a *nomen conservandum*. Regarding other Phyla, I have thus far consulted only Dr. Olga Hartman, specialist in Annelida. She informs me that *Tricelia* is considered a synonym of *Chaetopterus* [Cuvier, 1830] and that *Cerebratulus* is in use in Nemertea. According to Bronn's *Classen und Ordnungen des Thier-Reichs*, *Tubulanus* is also a genus of Nemertea, type of the family TUBULANIDAE. I have no information on the present status of *Acicula*, *Alcyonaria*, *Polycitor*, *Rodens*, and *Tuba*. If they

are in use, specialists may wish to petition for their preservation. The generic name *Alcyonaria* Renier seems to have been overlooked by most nomenclators. It is not the Alcyonaria of Milne-Edwards, a subclass of Coelenterata.

9. There is in the "Tavole," 1807, a further problem of dual nomenclature for molluscan genera. A sample entry is here quoted :

Nome generico dei Molluschi	Nome generico delle conchiglie	Nome specifico di alcuni conchiglie
3. <i>Fistulanigenus</i>	<i>Fistulana</i> Lam.	<i>Ter. clava</i> Gmel.

Thus, the names in Renier's first column are compounded from the names in the second (the standard list of his day) by addition of the suffix-*genus* to denote the soft parts or the animal that resides in the shell. Perhaps these terms could be dismissed under *Opinion 72* as formulae, not true zoological names. Although they have been cited as available names by modern nomenclators, none has yet been adopted, so far as I can discover, and none would seem to serve a useful purpose. (It may be remarked that several of these refer to groups that would not now be placed in *Mollusca*.) The following note explains the nature of Renier's plates VII and VIII and the method used by him for numbering the terms which he employed :—

Renier's Tavole VII and VIII are really analytical charts, with descriptive text at the top and left side to group the organisms in morphologic categories. At the right were the series of columns described in my petition, listing common name, latin name, name of shell, name of animal, etc. The numerical arrangement began with an overall column followed immediately by a second which tallied all the genera in one of his selected morphologic categories. Major breaks in continuity in the second column here were caused by insertion, from time to time, of a group of "naked" mollusks among those that were "shelled." Thus, in Tav. VII, the numbers run concurrently to 5, these being soft-bodied groups, then the shelled ones begin at 1 in the second column, opposite 6 in the first. I would not need to mention this complication except that if the Commission wishes to list the names by number and uses only the second column, there would appear to be two number 8's, one opposite 13 of Tav. VII, the other opposite 95 of Tav. VIII. In making this transcript I have included several names to show you the system that should be omitted in the final version. These I have signalized by asterisks. It may be you will choose to use the numbers in the first column. In this case the numeration would begin at 6 and would omit 83, 94, and 96 as well as 152-160. But if you choose to use both or to use the set that is nearest to the generic names in question, some explanation will have to be given for the breaks in sequence between 87-88 and after 142.

10. The following is a complete list of the names ending in *genus*, in the order given by Renier :—

Tav. VII—MOLLUSCHI

*1.	1.	Mammaria	13.	8.	Sanguinolarigenus
*2.	2.	Pyrosoma Peron	14.	9.	Glycimerigenus
*3.	3.	Salpa	15.	10.	Myigenus
*4.	4.	Polycitor	16.	11.	Panopeigenus
*5.	5.	Ascidia	17.	12.	Anatinigenus
6.	1.	Teredigenus	18.	13.	Mactrigenus
7.	2.	Pholadigenus	19.	14.	Lutrarigenus
8.	3.	Fistulanigenus	20.	15.	Crassatelligenus
9.	4.	Saxicavigenus	21.	16.	Ungulinigenus
10.	5.	Rupellarigenus	22.	17.	Tellinigenus
11.	6.	Petricoligenus	23.	18.	Donacigenus
12.	7.	Solenigenus	24.	19.	Cytherigenus

25.	20.	Venerigenus	52.	47.	Crenatuligenus
26.	21.	Erycinigenus	53.	48.	Mytiligenus
27.	22.	Capsigenus	54.	49.	Modioligenus
28.	23.	Galateigenus	55.	50.	Pinnigenus
29.	24.	Cycladigenus	56.	51.	Plancunigenus [sic]
30.	25.	Lucinigenus	57.	52.	Marginelligenus
31.	26.	Venericardigenus	58.	53.	Limigenus
32.	27.	Cardigenus	59.	54.	Pedigenus
33.	28.	Isocardigenus	60.	55.	Cystigenus
34.	29.	Carditigenus	61.	56.	Imisigenus
35.	30.	Hippopigenus	62.	57.	Pectinigenus
36.	31.	Tridacnigenus	63.	58.	Spondyligenus
37.	32.	Trigonigenus	64.	59.	Plicatuligenus
38.	33.	Cucullaeigenus	65.	60.	Gryphaeigenus
39.	34.	Archigenus	66.	61.	Ostreigenus
40.	35.	Pectunculigenus	67.	62.	Vulselligenus
41.	36.	Nuculigenus	68.	63.	Anomigenus
42.	37.	Anodontigenus	69.	64.	Creniigenus
43.	38.	Uniigenus	70.	65.	Calceoligenus
44.	39.	Pandorigenus	71.	66.	Radio lithigenus
45.	40.	Corbuligenus	72.	67.	Orbiculigenus
46.	41.	Diceratigenus	73.	68.	Terebratuligenus
47.	42.	Chamigenus	74.	69.	Liguligenus
48.	43.	Etheriigenus	75.	70.	Anatigenus
49.	44.	Hirundigenus	76.	71.	Balanigenus
50.	45.	Malleigenus	77.	72.	Tubicinelligenus
51.	46.	Pernigenus	78.	73.	Coronuligenus

Tav. VIII—MOLLUSCHI

79.	74.	Aspergilligenus	116.	107.	Cyclostomigenus
80.	75.	Siliquarigenus	117.	108.	Monodontigenus
81.	76.	Vermicularigenus	118.	109.	Delphinuligenus
82.	77.	{ Arenarigenus Scolixedion	119.	110.	Turbinigenus
*83.	6.	Phyllidia	120.	111.	Solarigenus
84.	78.	Patelligenus	121.	112.	Trochigenus
85.	79.	Fissurelligenus	122.	113.	Cerithiogenus
86.	80.	Emarginuligenus	123.	114.	Clavatuligenus
87.	81.	Crepiduligenus	124.	115.	Plaurotomigenus
88.	82.	Calyptraceigenus	125.	116.	Turbinelligenus
89.	83.	Stomatigenus	126.	117.	Fasciolarigenus
90.	84.	Haliotidigenus	127.	118.	Pyruligenus
91.	85.	Concol.-padigenus	128.	119.	Fusigenus
92.	86.	Planospirigenus	129.	120.	Muricigenus
93.	87.	Chitonigenus	130.	121.	Rostellariagenus
*94.	7.	Parmacella	131.	122.	Pterocerigenus
*95.	8.	Testacelligenus	132.	123.	Strombigenus
*96.	9.	Limax	133.	124.	Cassigenus
97.	88.	Natichigenus	134.	125.	Harpigenus
98.	89.	Neritigenus	135.	126.	Doliigenus
99.	90.	Helicinigenus	136.	127.	Terebrigenus
100.	91.	Helicigenus	137.	128.	Eburnigenus
101.	92.	Planorbigenus	138.	129.	Buccinigenus
102.	93.	Ampullarigenus	139.	130.	Purpurigenus
103.	94.	Auriculigenus	140.	131.	Nassigenus
104.	95.	Pyramidelligenus	141.	132.	Cancellariagenus
105.	96.	Melanigenus	142.	133.	Marginelligenus
106.	97.	Lymneigenus	143.	134.	Columbelligenus
107.	98.	Achatinigenus	144.	135.	Mitrigenus
108.	99.	Phasianelligenus	145.	136.	Volutigenus
109.	100.	Volvarigenus	146.	137.	Ancilligenus
110.	101.	Bulimigenus	147.	148.	Olivigenus
111.	102.	Amphibulimigenus	148.	139.	Terebelligenus
112.	103.	Ianthinigenus	149.	140.	Ovuligenus
113.	104.	Turritelligenus	150.	141.	Cypraeigenus
114.	105.	Pupigenus	151.	142.	Conigenus
115.	106.	Scalarigenus	161.	18.	Sigaretigenus
			162.	19.	Bulligenus

11. I concur with Dr. Cox in the belief that these papers of Renier's are "fragments of a work contemplated but never published." The lack of an over-all title page, the preservation of only a single known copy of the works, at the library of the University of Padua, the lack of agreement among bibliographers as to exact titles and dates, and the omission of Renier's generic names from nomenclators such as Agassiz (1842-46) and Herrmannsen (1846-49) [the name *Aglaia* is listed in the supplement to the latter (1852) as, "Renier (?1804)"], all suggest that prior to 1847 Renier's works above discussed existed only as proof-sheets or as charts set up in type for class-room use.

12. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is now asked to take the following action supplementary to the action in regard to the *Tavola alfabetica delle Conchiglie Adriatiche* and the *Prospetto della Classe dei Vermi* prepared by Renier (S.A.) and commonly attributed to the year "1804" recommended in the application already submitted by Dr. L. R. Cox, namely that it should :

- (1) rule that the work by Renier (S.A.) entitled *Tavole per servire alla classificazione e connescenza degli Animali* and commonly attributed to the year "1807" was not published within the meaning of Article 25 of the *Règles* and therefore that no name acquired the status of availability by reason of appearing in the foregoing work;
- (2) place the work specified in (1) above on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Works in Zoological Nomenclature*;
- (3) provide an opportunity to specialists to submit applications for the validation, under the Plenary Powers, of any of the under-mentioned generic names which may be shown to be in current use ;
 - (a) Names which first appeared in the *Prospetto* of 1804 :
 - (i) *Discoides* Renier;
 - (ii) *Cerebratulus* Renier;
 - (iii) *Polycitor* Renier;
 - (iv) *Scolixedion* Renier;
 - (b) Names which first appeared in the *Tavole* of 1807 :
 - (i) *Aglaia* Renier;
 - (ii) *Alcyonaria* Renier;
 - (iii) *Cystia* Renier;
 - (iv) *Rodens* Renier;
 - (v) *Tricelia* Renier;
 - (vi) *Tuba* Renier;
 - (vii) *Tubulanus* Renier;
- (4) place on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology* :
 - (a) any of the names enumerated in (3) above which are not validated under the Plenary Powers in response to the appeal there suggested;
 - (b) the generic names having the termination "-genus" listed in paragraph 10 of the present application (unless this is considered impracticable, in which case a Ruling that these words are formulae and not zoological names is asked for);
- (5) place on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology* the specific names enumerated in paragraphs 5, 6, and 7 of the present application as names newly-proposed by Renier in the works there specified.

QUESTION WHETHER IT IS DESIRABLE IN THE
INTERESTS OF NOMENCLATORIAL STABILITY TO VALID-
DATE UNDER THE PLENARY POWERS CERTAIN GENERIC
NAMES AS FROM RENIER, [1804], "PROSPETTO," CON-
SEQUENT UPON THE REJECTION OF THAT WORK FOR
NOMENCLATORIAL PURPOSES

By FRANCIS HEMMING, C.M.G., C.B.E.

(Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature)

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)832)

At the time when Dr. Myra Keen submitted her application asking for the rejection, as being unpublished, of certain works by Renier commonly attributed to the years "1804" and "1807," she proposed that, concurrently with the rejection of these works, specialists should be given an opportunity to ask for the validation of certain generic names, in the event of their considering that this should be done in the interests of nomenclatorial stability.

2. One of the works covered by Dr. Keen's application was the *Prospetto* of 1804, an application for the rejection of which had, as she pointed out, already been submitted by Dr. L. R. Cox (1951, *Bull. Zool. Nomencl.* **2** : 299-300). Since then, Dr. Cox's application has been approved by the Commission and the decision so taken has been embodied in *Opinion 316* (now in the press).

3. Four of the names referred to by Dr. Keen first appeared in the *Prospetto* and under the foregoing decision are now invalid, as from Renier [1804]. These names are: *Discoides* Renier; *Cerebratulus* Renier; *Polycitor* Renier; *Scolixedion* Renier.

4. Acting on Dr. Keen's suggestion, I am now giving notice of the possible use of the Plenary Powers to validate the foregoing names, and I appeal to interested specialists to inform the Commission whether they consider that any of these names should be so validated. Any of the names not so validated will in six month's time be placed on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology* under the regulations governing that *Index*.

QUESTION OF VALIDATING CERTAIN GENERIC NAMES,
UNDER THE PLENARY POWERS, IN THE INTERESTS OF
NOMENCLATORIAL STABILITY AS FROM RENIER, [1807],
"TAVOLA," IN THE EVENT OF THE REJECTION OF THAT
WORK FOR NOMENCLATORIAL PURPOSES

By FRANCIS HEMMING, C.M.G., C.B.E.

(Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature)

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)688)

Dr. Myra Keen's application in regard to the works of Renier (:257-262) raises a situation in relation to new generic names in the *Tavola* of Renier of 1807 exactly parallel to that discussed in the immediately preceding note in relation to the *Prospetto* of the same author, except that the latter work has already been rejected by the Commission, while no decision will be taken for six months in the case of the *Tavola*.

2. The generic names which first appeared in the *Tavola* and as regards which Dr. Keen has suggested that specialists should be given an opportunity to state whether they desire validation under the Plenary Powers as from Renier [1807] are (1) *Aglaea* Renier; (2) *Alcyonaria* Renier; (3) *Cystia* Renier; (4) *Rodens* Renier; (5) *Tuba* Renier; (6) *Tubulanus* Renier.

3. Specialists are invited to inform the Commission whether they consider that any of the foregoing names ought to be validated in the interests of stability in nomenclature. Any name not validated in response to the foregoing appeal for advice will, at the expiry of a period of six months, be placed on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology*. Notice of the possible use of the Plenary Powers in respect of these names is being given in the prescribed manner.

SUPPLEMENTARY APPLICATION CONCERNING THE SUPPRESSION OF WORKS
BY S. A. RENIER (1804 AND 1807)

By L. R. COX, M.A., Sc.D., F.R.S.
(*British Museum (Natural History), London*)

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)688)

An application for a ruling that the *Prodromo* and *Prospetto della Classe dei Vermi* of S. A. Renier (1804) should not rank as publications within the meaning of Article 25 has been submitted by the present applicant (1951, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 2 : 299).

2. It was made clear that the application relating to the *Prodromo* covered the section entitled *Tavola alfabetica delle Conchiglie Adriatiche*. It is now proposed to extend the application to the same author's work said to have been entitled *Tavole per servire alla classificazione e conoscenza degl' animali* and to have been published in 1807. (The title page is wanting in the only extant copy.)

3. The statements made in the previous application concerning the doubtful status of Renier's works as publications apply also to this last work. It is known only by a single printed copy in the library of the University of Padua and by two reduced photographic reproductions made for C. D. Sherborn. One reproduction is in the British Museum (Natural History), while the second has recently been acquired by the library of Stanford University, California. It is most improbable that this work was ever generally distributed. It consists of eight tables containing the outlines of schemes of classification, and in them a number of new generic and specific names are introduced.

4. The nomenclatural problems raised by the 1807 work have been discussed by Dr. A. Myra Keen (1951, *Nautilus*, 65 : 8) in so far as they affect the mollusca. Renier introduced a scheme in which the soft parts received a distinct generic name ending in "-genus," derived from that of the shell (e.g. *Teredigenus*, derived from *Teredo*). Miss Keen states that "I do not agree that these names ending in -genus are either validly proposed or valid emendations," and her final conclusion is that "Renier's contributions to molluscan taxonomy can be reduced to four generic names, only one of which, *Aglaea*, is in current use. Two, *Scolixedion* and *Cystia*, will displace familiar names unless suppressed by action of the International Commission or unless it can be shown that the type species are *species dubia*. The fourth, *Discoides*, remains for specialists in Opisthobranchiata to evaluate."

5. The generic name *Aglaea* Renier, which appeared both in his "Prospetto . . . Vermi" (1804) and his "Tavole . . . animali" (1807?) has latterly been used for the genus formerly known generally as *Doridium* Meckel, 1809, type genus of a family DORIDIIDAE. A reversion to this name *Doridium* would not create confusion, for it is used for the genus in such standard works as P. Fischer's "Manuel de Conchyliologie" (1880-87) and A. H. Cooke's "Molluscs" (*Cambridge Natural History*, 1895).

**PROPOSED ADOPTION OF A " DECLARATION " THAT A
GENERIC OR SPECIFIC NAME BASED SOLELY UPON THE
"APTYCHUS" OF AN AMMONITE (CLASS CEPHALO-
PODA, ORDER AMMONOIDEA) BE EXCLUDED FROM
AVAILABILITY UNDER ARTICLE 27 OF THE " RÈGLES "
AND PROPOSED SUPPRESSION OF CERTAIN SUCH
NAMES UNDER THE PLENARY POWERS**

By W. J. ARKELL, M.A., D.Sc., F.R.S.
(*Cambridge University, Sedgwick Museum, Cambridge*)

**(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)589 (proposed "Declaration");
Z.N.(S.)858 ("Official Lists" and "Official Indexes"))**

Sub-section (a) of Article 27 of the *Règles* provides that " the oldest available name is retained when any part of an animal is named before the animal itself." The present application seeks a clarification of this provision in one particular.

2. Many nominal genera are based upon nominal species of which the type specimens are incomplete. The foregoing rule is therefore, in general, desirable.

3. There are however certain special cases where the application of the above rule would lead to highly undesirable disturbance of existing nomenclature. Such cases can be dealt with either by the insertion of words in Article 27 ruling out from availability names based exclusively upon some specified part of an animal or can be eliminated individually by the names concerned being suppressed by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature under its Plenary Powers, the names so suppressed being then placed on the appropriate *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Names in Zoology*.

4. An example of the undesirable disturbance of existing nomenclature which would arise from the strict application of Sub-section (a) of Article 27 is provided by the names bestowed upon the aptychi of ammonites, structures which are now generally admitted to be opercula, analogous with those of gastropods. In the first half of the XIXth century, the nature of these structures was not understood, and several nominal genera and nominal species were established for them in the belief, usually, that they were lammellibranchs. Subsequently, some of these opercula have been found *in situ* in the body-chamber of ammonites. In these cases the names currently used for the genera and species of ammonite concerned were not published until long after the names published for their aptychi. The names published for the aptychi being at present available names, there is a serious risk of disturbance in current nomenclatorial practice unless the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature takes preventive action.

5. One of the oldest nominal genera based upon aptychi is *Trigonellites* Parkinson, 1811 (*Organic Remains former World* : 184), for which a description and good figures were provided by Parkinson. No type species was designated

for this genus, the type species of which must however be one or other of the two originally included nominal species, *Trigonellites latus* Parkinson, 1811 (: 186, pl. 13, figs. 9, 12) and *T. lamellosus* Parkinson, 1811 (: 186, pl. 13, figs. 10, 11). Since Parkinson's time, the nominal species *T. latus* has been identified as having been based upon the aptychus of a species of the genus *Aspidoceras* Zittel, 1868, and *T. lamellosus* as having been based upon a species of the genus *Oppelia* Waagen, 1869. Thus, whichever of the foregoing species were to be selected as the type species of the nominal genus *Trigonellites* Parkinson, a serious situation would arise, for in the one case the name *Trigonellites* Parkinson would replace the name *Aspidoceras* Zittel, while in the other case that name would replace *Oppelia* Waagen. These are both important genera and are the type genera of families; the supersession of either of these names would give rise to confusion and would be open to strong objection. It is the object of the present application to prevent these and other names in current use from being invalidated by the resuscitation of these old names based upon aptychi. In the present case it is desirable that, as part of its decision in regard to the name *Trigonellites* Parkinson, the International Commission should place the name *Aspidoceras* Zittel on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology*. In the case of *Oppelia* Waagen, 1869, a proposal for its addition to the *Official List* has already been submitted to the International Commission (1951, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **2** (6-8) : 227) and no further action is therefore needed here². It may be noted that Dr. F. Trauth (Vienna), the sole world authority on aptychi, does not recognise as an available name any generic name or specific name based solely upon the aptychi of ammonites. See Trauth, F., 1927-1936, *Aptychenstudien I-VIII* (*Ann. naturh. Mus. Wien* **41-48**) (especially "Aptychenstudien I", published in 1927 (*loc. cit.* **41** : 221-228)). It will be seen therefore that the action now recommended is in line with current usage both from the point of view of the study of ammonites and from that of the study of aptychi.

6. It is accordingly recommended that the International Commission should render a "Declaration" recommending the International Congress of Zoology to amend Article 27 of the *Règles* in such a way as to deprive of availability in zoological nomenclature any name based solely upon the aptychus of an ammonite.

7. The amendment of the *Règles* in the foregoing sense would completely dispose of the problem here under consideration, but in the nature of the case this is a remedy which cannot be secured until the suggested "Declaration" is reported to, and approved by, the next International Congress of Zoology. It would however be most undesirable that the particular names with which we are here concerned should be permitted to retain their present status until the next Congress, for, as matters now stand, it would otherwise be necessary to take account of them in the forthcoming *Treatise on Invertebrate Paleontology*. It is therefore recommended that the immediate situation should be dealt with by the suppression of these names by the International Commission under its Plenary Powers, the names in question, when so suppressed, being placed on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology*.

²This name has now been placed on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* in Opinion 311 (in the press).

8. The proposals which are now specifically submitted to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature are that it should :—

- (1) render a "Declaration" recommending that Sub-Section (a) of Article 27 be amended by the addition of the following words excluding from its scope anygeneric name or specific name based solely upon the aptychus of an ammonite: " save that, where a nominal genus or nominal species of ammonites (Class Cephalopoda, Order Ammonoidea) has been established solely upon an aptychus or upon aptychi, the generic name or, as the case may be, the specific name published for the nominal genus or nominal species so established is to have no status in zoological nomenclature ";
- (2) in anticipation of the insertion in the *Règles* of the foregoing amendment of Article 27, use its Plenary Powers to suppress the under-mentioned names of generic and specific names of species, each of which is based solely upon the aptychus, or upon the aptychi, of ammonites :—
 - (a) the under-mentioned generic names :—
 - (i) *Trigonellites* Parkinson, 1811, *Organic Remains former World* 3 : 184 ;
 - (ii) *Solennites* Schlotheim, 1813, *Tasch. Min.* : 105 ;
 - (iii) *Solenites* Schlotheim, 1820, *Petref.* : 180 (an emendation of *Solennites* Schlotheim, 1813) ;
 - (iv) *Aptychus* Meyer, 1831, *Jahrb. f. Min.* 1831 : 393 ; *id.*, 1831, *N. Acta Acad. Caes. Leopold. Car.* 15 (No. 2) : 125 ;
 - (v) *Aptycus* Deshayes, 1845, *in Lamarck, Hist. Anim. sans Vertèbr.* (ed. 2) 11 : 228 (an emendation of *Aptychus* Meyer, 1831) ;
 - (vi) *Muensteria* Eudes-Deslongchamps, 1835, *Mém. Soc. linn. Normandie* 5 : 61 ;
 - (b) the under-mentioned specific names :—
 - (i) *lamellosus* Parkinson, 1811, as published in the binominal combination *Trigonellites lamellosus* ;
 - (ii) *latus* Parkinson, 1811, as published in the binominal combination *Trigonellites latus* ;
- (3) place the six generic names proposed, under (2) (a) above, to be suppressed under the Plenary Powers, on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology* ;
- (4) place the two specific names proposed, under (2) (b) above, to be suppressed under the Plenary Powers on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology* ;
- (5) place the generic name *Aspidoceras* Zittel, 1868 (*Pal. Mitt. Mus. Bayer.* 2 (Abt. 1) : 116) (gender of generic name : neuter) (type species, by monotypy : *Ammonites rogoznikensis* Zeuschner, 1868 (*in* Zittel, *Pal. Mitt. Mus. Bayer.* 2 (Abt. 1) : 116, pl. 24, fig. 5) on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* :

(6) place the specific name *rogoznikensis* Zeuschner, 1868, as published in the combination *Ammonites rogoznikensis* (specific name of type species of *Aspidoceras* Zittel, 1868) on the *Official List of Specific Names in Zoology*.

COMMENT ON THE TYPE SPECIES OF "ANCILLA" LAMARCK, 1799 (CLASS GASTROPODA)

By KATHERINE V. W. PALMER
(Palaeontological Research Institution, Ithaca, N.Y., U.S.A.)

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)170)

(Reference to proposal submitted by Mr. Francis Hemming
in the note published on pages 219-220 of the present volume)

Thank you for your letter and note regarding *Ancilla* Lamarck, 1799. The procedure in designating the type species by monotypy of *Ancilla* Lamarck, 1799, seems to be straight according to the recommendation of the Paris Congress and I see no objection to the procedure in that it gives a monotype which is congeneric with the species not named but indicated in the original description of the genus *Ancilla* Lamarck, 1799. Since the two species linked with the name are congeneric, it makes no difference.

SUPPORT FOR THE PROPOSED VALIDATION OF THE GENERIC NAME "STRATIOMYS" GEOFFERY, 1762 (CLASS INSECTA, ORDER DIPTERA)

By MAURICE T. JAMES
(State College of Washington, Pullman, Washington, U.S.A.)

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)710)

(For application see Stone (A.) et al., 1954, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 9(8): 248-246)

(Extract from a letter dated 20th May 1954)

Proposal for the validation of certain generic names in the Order Diptera submitted by Stone and others: I wish to express my wish that this list of genera be added to the *Official List*. The one that concerns me particularly is *Stratiomys*. If this name dates from Geoffrey 1762, the family name *STRATIOMYIDAE* will be saved; but if it dates from Geoffrey 1764, *Hist. Nat. des Insectes*, *Hirtea* Scopoli 1763 will have priority. In my opinion, *Hirtea* is a very feebly founded genus and I do not believe it can be maintained on a zoological basis.

PROPOSED ADDITION TO THE "OFFICIAL LIST OF
GENERIC NAMES IN ZOOLOGY" OF THE GENERIC NAME
"XANTHO" LEACH, 1814 (CLASS CRUSTACEA, ORDER
DECAPODA)

By L. B. HOLTHUIS

(Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden, the Netherlands)

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)601)

When studying the Indo-West Pacific XANTHIDAE with the object to make a thorough revision of this group of crabs, the late Miss Alida M. Buitendijk, who was the Curator of Crustacea of the Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden, encountered a nomenclatorial problem which she intended to lay before the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature. Miss Buitendijk's untimely death in September 1950, however, prevented her from carrying out her object. Since Miss Buitendijk on several occasions discussed the problem with me and placed me in the possession of all the data, I feel it my duty to bring this question to the attention of the Commission and to submit the undermentioned proposal.

2. According to the opinion of several of the foremost specialists of the family XANTHIDAE (Buitendijk, Gordon, Monod, Odhner) the generic names *Xantho* Leach, 1814, and *Leptodius* A. Milne Edwards, 1863, are synonyms. Since the type species of these two genera are not identical, the synonymy of *Xantho* and *Leptodius* is a subjective one. The authors who synonymize *Xantho* and *Leptodius*, use the former name for their genus, which seems to be perfectly correct as this name is the older of the two. However, *Opinion 85* of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature (1925, *Smithson. misc. Coll.* **73** (3) : 13-18) places the name *Leptodius* A. Milne Edwards, 1863, on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology*, while till now the generic name *Xantho* Leach, 1814, has not been inserted in that *List*. The genus *Xantho* Leach is widely distributed in the tropical and subtropical seas of the world and contains a large number of species. The name *Xantho* has been used by practically all carcinologists and it is the name of the type genus of the family XANTHIDAE. Thus it is highly desirable that the name *Xantho* Leach, 1814, should be preserved. The International Commission is accordingly asked (1) to place the name *Xantho* Leach, 1814, on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology*, and (2) to add to the existing entry on that *List* relating to the name *Leptodius* A. Milne Edwards, 1863, a note (similar to that already inserted in the parallel case of the generic names of the human malaria parasites, *Plasmodium* and *Laverania*) that this name has been placed on the *Official List* for use only by those specialists who consider that the type species of this genus and that of *Xantho* Leach are generically distinct from one another.

3. The gender of the name *Xantho* provides some difficulties. The exact derivation of the name is unknown. Dutrochet (1819, *Bull. Soc. philomat. Paris* **1819** : 155), who gave a genus of Oligochaeta the generic name *Xantho*, which thus is a junior homonym of *Xantho* Leach, states it to be a "nom mythologique d'une naiade." Agassiz (1843, *Nomencl. Zool.*, Crust. : 28)

derived the name given by Leach from the Greek word $\xi\alpha\vartheta\circ\varsigma$ (incorrectly spelled $\chi\alpha\vartheta\circ\varsigma$ by Agassiz) for yellow, and emended the name *Xantho* to *Xanthus*. It seems most probable that Leach indeed named the genus after a Naiad, since he treats the name *Xantho* as a feminine word (the type species *Cancer incisus* is named by Leach *Xantho incisa*). It would be logical therefore to accept the name *Xantho* Leach, 1814, as being of the feminine gender, but the question of the gender of this name will remain open to doubt until an authoritative Ruling is given by the Commission. Since the publication in 1834 of H. Milne Edwards's first volume of his *Histoire Naturelle des Crustacés*, the name *Xantho* Leach has been treated by almost all carcinologists as being of the masculine gender. In order not to cause changes in the usual spelling of the specific names employed in combination with the generic name *Xantho* Leach, the International Commission is therefore asked to place this generic name on the *Official List* as being of the male gender.

4. The concrete proposals which I now submit for consideration are that the International Commission should :—

- (1) place on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* the name *Xantho* Leach, 1814 (*in Brewster's Edinb. Encycl.* **7** (2) : 430) (type species, by monotypy: *Cancer incisus* Leach, 1814, *in Brewster's Edinb. Encycl.* **7** (2) : 391) (gender of generic name to be treated as masculine);
- (2) add the following note to the entry in the foregoing *Official List* made by the Ruling given in Opinion 85 in relation to the name *Leptodius* Milne Edwards (A.), 1863: “(generic name to be used by authors who consider *Chlorodius exaratus* Milne Edwards (H.), 1834, to be generically distinct from *Cancer incisus* Leach, 1814, the type species of *Xantho* Leach, 1814)”;
- (3) place on the *Official List of Specific Names in Zoology* the specific name *incisus* Leach, 1814 (*in Brewster's Edinb. Encycl.* **7** (2) : 391) as published in the binomen *Cancer incisus*;
- (4) place the under-mentioned generic names on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology* :—
 - (a) *Xantho* Dutrochet, 1819 (*Bull. Soc. philomat. Paris* **1819** : 155) (a junior homonym of *Xantho* Leach, 1814);
 - (b) *Xanthus* Agassiz, 1843 (*Nomencl. Zool., Crust.* : 28) (an Invalid Emendation of *Xantho* Leach, 1814).

**REQUEST THAT THE GENERIC NAME "NOTROPIS"
RAFINESQUE, 1818 (CLASS OSTEICHTHYES, ORDER CYP-
RINIDA, FAMILY CYPRINIDAE) BE PLACED ON THE
"OFFICIAL LIST OF GENERIC NAMES IN ZOOLOGY":
QUESTION OF POSSIBLE USE OF THE COMMISSION'S
PLENARY POWERS TO DETERMINE THE GENDER OF
THIS GENERIC NAME**

By REEVE M. BAILEY and

ROBERT RUSH MILLER

(Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan)

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)663)

The generic name *Notropis* was introduced by Rafinesque (1818, *Amer. Month. Mag. and Critical Review*, 2 : 204), with *N. atherinoides* Rafinesque, 1818 (: 204) from Lake Erie as its type species (by monotypy). As indicated by Rafinesque, the name was suggested by the keeled or carinated back (probably an artifact resulting from improper preservation). Although feminine by derivation, the word *Notropis* was treated as masculine by all authors known to us from 1818 until 1951. Recently, Hubbs (1951, *Occ. Pap. Mus. Zool., Univ. Mich.*, 530 : 14) has noted that *Notropis* is classically feminine, and he accordingly altered a few adjectival trivial names to agree in gender with the generic name. This procedure conforms with the requirements of the Code.

2. *Notropis* is known to include some 250 specific names representing well in excess of 100 valid species, making it the largest genus of North American freshwater fishes. In addition to being large, the genus includes many of the most abundant and widespread species on the continent, some of them the subjects of a sizeable non-taxonomic literature. A change necessitating correction of all adjectival specific names (numbering half of the specific names in the genus) would result in misunderstanding and confusion for years, especially by students, editors, and biologists who are not taxonomic ichthyologists. Currently, American ichthyologists are divided in their opinion on the problem: some prefer to continue to treat *Notropis* as masculine; others wish to be classically correct and to alter the gender of all the adjectival specific names concerned. However, we believe all investigators would welcome an unalterable answer to the problem.

3. Therefore, we request (1) that *Notropis* Rafinesque, 1818, be placed on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* (type species, by monotypy: *Notropis atherinoides* Rafinesque, 1818), (2) that the specific name *atherinoides* Rafinesque, 1818, as published in the combination *Notropis atherinoides*, be placed on the *Official List of Specific Names in Zoology*, and (3) that the gender of *Notropis* be designated by the Commission.

4. Of the New World ichthyologists who have read this petition all are in agreement with the first two points.

5. The following New World ichthyologists prefer that the Commission exercise its Plenary Powers and rule that the generic name *Notropis* be treated as a masculine word:—

José Alvarez, Mexico
Reeve M. Bailey
William C. Beckman
William Beebe
Kelshaw Bonham
C. M. Breder, Jr.
Martin R. Brittan
C. J. D. Brown
Kenneth D. Carlander
Wilbert M. Chapman
Gerald P. Cooper
Frank B. Cross
Fernando de Buen, Uruguay
Martin del Campo, Mexico
Jack S. Dendy
J. R. Dymond, Canada
R. W. Eschmeyer
W. Harry Everhart
Agustin Fernandez-Yepez, Venezuela
Alcides Lourenço Gomes, Brazil
Myron Gordon
William A. Gosline
John R. Greeley
C. Willard Greene
Marion Grey
Gordon Gunter
Robert W. Harrington, Jr.
Earl S. Herald
Clark Hubbs
Robert F. Inger
Raymond E. Johnson
William J. Koster
Ernest A. Lachner
Karl F. Lagler
Francesca R. LaMonte
Vianney Legendre, Canada
William M. McLane
Romeo Mansueti
John C. Marr
Nelson Marshall
Robert Rush Miller
George A. Moore
George S. Myers
John T. Nichols
A. E. Parr
Edward C. Raney

W. E. Ricker, Canada
 Luis Revé Rivas
 Leonard P. Schultz
 Donald C. Scott
 W. B. Scott, Canada
 William F. Sigler
 James R. Simon
 Royal D. Suttkus
 John Tee-Van
 Milton B. Trautman
 Vadim D. Vladykov, Canada
 George F. Weisel
 Norman J. Wilimovsky
 Loren P. Woods

6. The following American ichthyologists prefer that the Commission rule that the name *Notropis* be treated as being of the feminine gender:—

W. I. Follett
 Harry W. Freeman
 David G. Frey
 Shelby D. Gerking
 Carl L. Hubbs
 Frank T. Knapp
 William Ralph Taylor

**OBJECTION TO THE BAILEY/MILLER PROPOSAL THAT THE GENERIC NAME
 "NOTROPIS" RAFINESQUE, 1818 (CLASS OSTEICHTHYES) SHOULD BE TREATED
 AS BEING OF THE MASCULINE GENDER AND COUNTER-PROPOSAL THAT THIS
 NAME BE ACCEPTED AS BEING OF THE FEMININE GENDER**

By CARL L. HUBBS
(Scripps Institution of Oceanography, La Jolla, California, U.S.A.)

and

W. I. FOLLETT
(California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, California, U.S.A.)

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)663)

(Letter dated 3rd August 1953)

For the purpose of identification, we state that the first of the present applicants is the ichthyologist referred to by Dr. Reeve M. Bailey in his letter of 1st December 1949 (1953, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 10 : 228), where he states that "one of my distinguished colleagues, who is in a purist frame of mind, proposed to revert to the classical feminine for *Notropis*" Rafinesque, 1818.

We emphatically urge that the Plenary Power be not invoked in this case for the following reasons:—

- (1) It is clear to us, and to ichthyologists in general, that the name *Notropis* is derived, by contractions, from *υρώς* (or *υρανός*), back, and *τρόπις*, keel, for Rafinesque in his original description mentioned the keeled back (of a desiccated specimen). (The name of the orthotype, *atherinoides*, does not indicate gender.)
- (2) It is also clear to us, from our study as well as from Dr. Grensted's contribution (16/3) that the gender of *τρόπις* is feminine. We quote Dr. Grensted's final conclusion*: "I can see no reasons why the word should not follow the natural indication of its termination and be feminine."
- (3) The name has recently been used, by at least four authors, as feminine, with the definite statement in two of the works (quoted below) that the proper gender is feminine.
- (4) It would be anomalous to have some generic names ending in *-tropis* regarded as masculine, while other names with this ending are treated, properly, as feminine. Such varied usage would lead to confusion and to a need for consulting the nomenclatorial records.
- (5) No possible confusion can result from spelling the quoted specific names *cornuta*, *rubella*, *volucella*, *zonata*, *bella*, and *maculata*, rather than as *cornutus*, *rubellus*, *volucellus*, *zonatus*, *bellus*, and *maculatus*.
- (6) These considerations seem to us sufficient to render unnecessary the suspension of the rules to justify the obviously crude blunder of authors.

We ask that the name *Notropis* Rafinesque, 1818, be placed on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology*, as feminine, with *Notropis atherinoides* as the type species, by orthotypy, and that *Notropis atherinoides* Rafinesque, 1818, be placed on the *Official List of Specific Names in Zoology*. These generic and specific names are now and have long been in exclusive use for the genus and species concerned.

References :

Hubbs, Carl L., 1951. *Notropis amnis*, a new cyprinid fish of the Mississippi fauna, with two subspecies. *Occ. Pap. Mus. Zool. Univ. Mich.*, **530** : 1-30, pl. 1, map. 1.

—. The American cyprinid fish *Notropis germanus* Hay interpreted as an intergeneric hybrid. *Amer. Midland Nat.*, **45** (2) : 446-454.

Hubbs, Carl L., and Kelshaw Bonham, 1951. New cyprinid fishes of the genus *Notropis* from Texas. *Texas J. Sci.* **1951** (1), 91-110, pls. 1-3.

Hubbs, Clark, 1951. Records from East Texas of three species of fish, *Semotilus atromaculatus*, *Notropis cornuta*, and *Microperca proelearis*. *Texas J. Sci.* **1951** (3) : 490-492.

Rafinesque, C. S., 1818. *Amer. Mon. Mag. and Crit. Rev.* **1818** : 204.

*See Grensted, 1953, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **10** : 230.

ON THE QUESTION OF THE GENDER TO BE ATTRIBUTED
TO THE GENERIC NAME "NOTROPIS" RAFINESQUE,
1818 (CLASS OSTEICHTHYES)

By FRANCIS HEMMING, C.M.G., C.B.E.

(Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature)

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)663)

The counter-proposal submitted jointly by Dr. Carl L. Hubbs and Mr. W. I. Follett in opposition to the proposal that the Plenary Powers should be used to direct that the generic name *Notropis* Rafinesque, 1818 (Class Osteichthyes) should be treated as being of the masculine gender submitted jointly by Dr. Reeve M. Bailey and Dr. Robert Rush Miller contains references to other documents bearing on this case, and a brief explanation of the origin of this application and its subsequent history may therefore be helpful.

2. In December 1949 Dr. Reeve M. Bailey addressed a preliminary communication to the Commission on the subject of the gender to be attributed to the generic name *Notropis* Rafinesque. This was given the Registered Number Z.N.(S.)440. Later—in March 1952—Dr. Bailey, jointly with Dr. Robert Rush Miller, submitted a formal application for the use by the Commission of its Plenary Powers for the purpose of directing that the foregoing generic name should be treated as being of the masculine gender. The application so received is that which is published in the present Part of the *Bulletin*.

3. When in the spring of 1953 I was preparing the Agenda for the Colloquium on Zoological Nomenclature to be held at Copenhagen in July of that year, I took the view that Dr. Reeve M. Bailey's letter of 1st December 1949 would provide a convenient opportunity for considering, not the particular case of the name *Notropis* Rafinesque, but the general question of principle underlying the issue involved in that case. Accordingly, that problem was entered on the Copenhagen Agenda as Case No. 16 "Article 14 (or associated Article): Question of the gender attributable to generic names consisting of compound words of Greek or Latin origin." Three documents were submitted in connection with Case No. 16, namely: *Document* 16/1, consisting of an explanatory note by myself as Secretary to the Commission (1953, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **10** : 226-227); *Document* 16/2, consisting of Dr. Bailey's letter of 1st December 1949, the letter referred to in paragraph 2 above (1953, *ibid.* **10** : 228); *Document* 16/3, consisting of an interesting and informative letter on the general issue involved which, in response to an appeal for advice, Dr. L. W. Grensted had addressed to me on this subject (1953, *ibid.* **10** : 229-230). At the same time it was decided to retain the Registered Number Z.N.(S.)440 for the general question of principle raised by Dr. Bailey and to allot the new Registered Number Z.N.(S.)663 to the individual case of the name *Notropis* Rafinesque.

4. The problem of the gender to be attributed to generic names consisting of words of Greek or Latin origin formed the subject of considerable discussion at Copenhagen and a detailed scheme was approved by the Congress (1953, *Copenhagen Decisions zool. Nomencl.* : 49-51).

5. Under the decisions taken by the Copenhagen Congress there is no doubt that the correct gender of the name *Notropis* Rafinesque is feminine. The only question now in issue is, therefore, whether, as advocated by Dr. Reeve Bailey and Dr. Robert Rush Miller, the Plenary Powers should be invoked to secure a valid foundation for the widely adopted treatment of this word as being of the masculine gender or whether, as advocated by Dr. Carl L. Hubbs and Mr. W. I. Follett, the rules shall be strictly applied in this case and this generic name accepted as being feminine in gender.

**PROPOSED USE OF THE PLENARY POWERS TO VARY
THE TYPE SPECIES OF THE GENUS "CHELONICERAS"
HYATT, 1903 (CLASS CEPHALOPODA, ORDER AMMO-
NOIDEA), IN ORDER TO VALIDATE EXISTING NOMEN-
CLATORIAL PRACTICE**

By R. CASEY

(*Geological Survey and Museum, London*)
and

C. W. WRIGHT, M.A.
(*London*)

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)703)

The object of the present application is to seek the help of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature in stabilising the nomenclature of the genus *Cheloniceras* Hyatt, 1903. It is hoped that the Commission will be able to give early consideration to this case since a decision is required in connection with the preparation of the *Treatise on Invertebrate Palaeontology*.

2. The generic name *Cheloniceras* was published in 1903 in " *Pseudoceratites of the Cretaceous*," a posthumous monograph of A. Hyatt edited by T. W. Stanton. It was introduced in an editorial footnote (Hyatt, 1903 : 101), which reads as follows :—

" In the manuscript a sheet is inserted just before *Vascoceras* with the heading 'Cosmoceratida,' followed by ' In family description notice resemblance of form to Aspidoc. of Jura as more remote than to *Cheloniceras* of the Cretacic.' Another memorandum bears pencil-sketch copies of d'Orbigny's figures of *Ammonites royerianus* (Pal. Fr. Terr. Crét., 1, pl. 112, figs. 3, 4) labeled *Cheloniceras royerianus*, indicating that he had probably selected this species as the type of a new genus. . . . T.W.S."

3. Notwithstanding the somewhat unusual circumstances of its introduction, the nominal genus *Cheloniceras*, with authorship credited to Hyatt and with *Ammonites royerianus* d'Orbigny (1841, *Paléont. française*, Terr. crét. 1 Céphalopodes : 365, pl. 112, figs. 3-5) as type-species, has since been universally accepted by ammonite specialists (e.g. Spath, 1921 : 316; Roman, 1938 : 426; Humphrey, 1949 : 143). It has come to occupy an important position in Cretaceous ammonitology and has formed the base of the family name CHELONICERATIDAE (Spath, 1923 : 35). Nomenclatorial stability of the genus is threatened, however, by inability to assess satisfactorily the taxonomic characters of its type-species.

4. D'Orbigny's holograph of *Ammonites royerianus* illustrates an immature ammonite from the Aptian of Baily-aux-Forge, Wassy (Haute-Marne), France, which is stated (Orbigny, 1841 : 365-6) to be 12 mm. in diameter and to be represented in natural size. As noted by Stoyanow (1949 : 104), however, the illustration is of 20 mm. diameter. In any case, the specimen is too

immature for positive determination below family level, and authors have been obliged to base their conception of *Cheloniceras* on such species as *A. cornuelianus* d'Orbigny, 1841 (*Paléont. française*, Terr. crét. 1 Céphalopodes : 364, pl. 112, figs. 1-2) and *A. martini* d'Orbigny, of which there is abundant well-illustrated material. Kilian (1913 : 340) referred *A. royerianus* to the same group as *A. ricordeanus* d'Orbigny (now assigned to the genus *Megatyloceras* Humphrey, 1949, *Bull. geol. Soc. Amer.* **60** (No. 1) : 149), while Rodighiero (1922 : 63, 67, 69) even supposed it to belong to the genus *Astiericeras* Parona and Bonarelli (family ASTIERICERATIDAE). On the other hand, Nikchitch (1915 : 3, 4, 13, 50) asserted that *C. royerianum* is merely the young of *C. cornuelianum*, and supported this assertion by illustrations of the young stages of *C. cornuelianum*. Nikchitch's views have been discussed by Stoyanow (1949 : 104), who has pointed out that in this connection it is probably significant that the type-specimens of *A. royerianus* and *A. cornuelianus* were obtained from the same area and from the same stratigraphical horizon and that they were described in immediate succession by d'Orbigny and figured on the same plate. Although we think it very likely that *A. royerianus* is the young stage of a species of the *cornuelianum* group, we do not consider its reference to *C. cornuelianum* to be beyond doubt. There are a number of allied species (e.g. *C. crassum* Spath and *C. kiliani* von Koenen) which are indistinguishable from *A. royerianus* and *A. cornuelianus* at 12 mm. diameter; moreover, if d'Orbigny's type-specimen of *A. royerianus* is indeed 20 mm. in diameter it is not possible to exclude certain species of *Megatyloceras* as being congeneric. Hence the nomenclature of both *Cheloniceras* and *Megatyloceras* is insecure.

5. Our efforts to trace the original specimen (or specimens) on which the holograph of *A. royerianus* is based have been unsuccessful. In reply to our enquiries (through Mme. E. Basse de Ménorval), M. Sornay of the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, wherein the d'Orbigny Collection is housed, has informed us (*in litt.* 18.7.52) that the d'Orbigny Collection now contains nothing which could have served as the basis for the illustration of *A. royerianus* and that all possible topotype specimens have been destroyed by decomposition. It is suggested that the specimen may have been returned to the Royer Collection, but the whereabouts of this Collection, if it still exists, is not known.

6. From the foregoing it is clear that doubt exists, and will always exist, as to the identity of the taxonomic species which is represented by the nominal species *Ammonites royerianus* d'Orbigny, and so long as this species remains the type species of the genus *Cheloniceras*, the nomenclature of that genus, of *Megatyloceras*, and of the family CHELONICERATIDAE rests upon an insecure basis. In order to remove this insecurity and to validate existing nomenclatorial practice in regard to the genus *Cheloniceras*, we ask the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature :—

(1) to use its Plenary Powers :—

(a) to suppress for the purposes of the Law of Priority but not for those of the Law of Homonymy the specific name *royerianus* d'Orbigny, 1841, as published in the combination *Ammonites royerianus* (specific name of a *species dubium*);

(b) to set aside all selections of type-species for the genus *Cheloniceras* Hyatt, 1903, made prior to the proposed decision, and to designate *Ammonites cornuelianus* d'Orbigny, 1841, to be the type-species of the foregoing genus;

(2) to place the following generic names on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* :—

(a) *Cheloniceras* Hyatt, 1903 (type-species, by designation under the Plenary Powers, as proposed in (1) (b) above : *Ammonites cornuelianus* d'Orbigny, 1841) (gender of name : neuter);

(b) *Megatyloceras* Humphrey, 1949 (type-species by original designation : *Douvilleiceras coronatum* Rouchadzé, 1932, *Bull. Inst. géol. Géorgie* 1 (3) : 195, pl. 3, fig. 4 ; text-figs. 12, 13) (gender of name : neuter);

(3) to place the following specific names on the *Official List of Specific Names in Zoology* :—

(a) *cornuelianus* d'Orbigny, 1841, as published in the binominal combination *Ammonites cornuelianus*;

(b) *coronatum* Rouchadzé, 1932, as published in the binominal combination *Douvilleiceras coronatum*;

(4) to place on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology* the specific name *royerianus* d'Orbigny, 1841, as published in the binominal combination *Ammonites royerianus*, as proposed, under (1) (a) above, to be suppressed under the Plenary Powers.

References

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**PROPOSED LIMITATION TO THE PURPOSES OF THE
LAW OF PRIORITY OF THE SUPPRESSION OF THE NAME
"ARGUS" BOHADSCH, 1761 (CLASS GASTROPODA)
EFFECTED IN "OPINION" 185, IN ORDER TO PREVENT
THE CONFUSION WHICH WOULD OTHERWISE ARISE IN
THE CLASS INSECTA, ORDER LEPIDOPTERA**

By FRANCIS HEMMING, C.M.G., C.B.E.

(*London*)

and

CYRIL F. DOS PASSOS

(*Research Associate, Department of Insects and Spiders, The American Museum of Natural History, New York*)

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)714)

The object of the present application is to ask the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature to limit to the purposes of the Law of Priority the suppression, under *Opinion* 185, of the generic name *Argus* Bohadsch, 1761 (*De Quibusdam Anim. mar. : 56*) (Class Gastropoda) in order to prevent the confusion which would otherwise be inevitable in the nomenclature of the Lepidoptera Rhopalocera through the emergence of the name *Argus* Scopoli, 1763 (*Ent. carn. : 176*) as the oldest available name for a well-known genus of the family LYCAENIDAE. The details of this case are set out briefly below.

2. By a decision dated 17th July 1944 the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature unanimously adopted an *Opinion* under which it approved a proposal which had been submitted to it by Dr. H. Engel (*Zoologisch Museum, Amsterdam, The Netherlands*) that, under suspension of the Rules, Bohadsch, 1761, *De Quibusdam Animalium marinis*, and the German translation of that work published by N. G. Leske in 1776 should be suppressed for all nomenclatorial purposes. This decision was embodied in the Commission's *Opinion* 185 and published on 17th October 1944 (*Ops. Decl. int. Comm. zool. Nomencl. 3 (4) : 37-52*).

3. One of the effects of the foregoing decision was to suppress for all nomenclatorial purposes the generic name *Argus* Bohadsch, 1761 (Class Gastropoda). This decision, in turn, meant that the name *Argus* Scopoli, 1763, was no longer an invalid junior homonym. Accordingly, unless action to the contrary is taken by the International Commission, the name *Argus* Scopoli becomes an available name, and by reason of its early date inevitably becomes the oldest available name for a genus of Lepidoptera.

4. The type species of *Argus* Scopoli, 1763 (by selection by Hemming, 1933, *Entomologist* **66** : 224) is *Papilio coridon* Poda, 1761 (*Ins. Mus. graec. : 77*). This well-known Palaearctic species and its congeners are now referred

to the genus *Lysandra* Hemming, 1933 (*Entomologist* **66** : 277), except by those entomologists who prefer to regard these species, notwithstanding their structural differences, as congeneric with *Papilio icarus* Rottemburg, 1775 (*Naturforscher* **6** : 21), the type species of the well-known genus *Polyommatus* Latreille, 1804 (*Nouv. Dict. Hist. nat.* **24** (Tab.) : 185, 200). This latter genus was originally based upon a misidentified type species (being referred to by Latreille under the specific name *argus* Fabricius, i.e. *argus* Linnaeus, 1758 (*Papilio*)), but this irregularity was put right by the International Commission under its Plenary Powers in *Opinion* 175 (1946, *Ops. Decl. int. Comm. zool. Nomencl.* **2** (45) : 509-520). In 1948 the name *Polyommatus* Latreille, 1804, which is a household word to all workers in the group concerned, was placed on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* with the above species as type species (see *Opinion* 270, published in 1954, *Ops. Decl. int. Comm. zool. Nomencl.* **6** : 25-40).

5. It will be seen from the foregoing particulars that, as matters now stand, the name *Argus* Scopoli, 1763, replaces, as an accidental by-product of the decision to suppress the names in Bohadsch, 1761, according to the taxonomic views held by the specialists concerned, either (1) the name *Lysandra* Hemming, 1933, or (2) the name *Polyommatus* Latreille, 1804. Either of these results would give rise to serious confusion, for the name *Argus* Scopoli, 1763, has never been used except by its author, when first publishing it 191 years ago, while even the later and invalid homonym *Argus* Boisduval, 1832 (*Icon. hist. lépidopt. Europe* **1** (5/6) : 49), which was originally applied in a loose way (i.e. without a designated type species) to a large group of allied species, has not, so far as we are aware, been used for well over 100 years.

6. In similar and more recent cases, e.g. the names in Geoffroy's *Histoire abrégée* (see 1950, *Opinion* 228, published in 1954, *Ops. Decl. int. Comm. zool. Nomencl.* **4** : 209-220) of 1762, the International Commission has recognised that the rejection, *en bloc*, of the names in a given book, though in general desirable, may give rise to undesirable consequences in individual cases and has accordingly signified its willingness to give sympathetic consideration to any applications which may be submitted by specialists for the validation of a given name in such a book. In the present instance we are concerned not with the possible validation of an objectively invalid name but with the much narrower problem of the grant of a partial exception in the case of a name included in a book suppressed under the Plenary Powers. The question of principle involved in these two types of case is however exactly the same, and it is submitted that this should be recognised in the present instance, for it is certain that, if, instead of suppressing *en bloc* the names in Bohadsch, 1761, the names in that book had been dealt with individually (a procedure towards which it appears from recently submitted proposals the general sentiment of zoologists is leaning), strong opposition would have been offered by lepidopterists to the suppression of the name *Argus* Bohadsch, 1761, so far as concerns its status under the Law of Homonymy. The International Commission is accordingly now asked to restrict its previous decision in such a way as to prevent the confusion in the nomenclature of the Lepidoptera which would follow the rejection of the name *Argus* Bohadsch, 1761, for the purposes of the Law of Homonymy and the consequent sudden emergence of the name *Argus* Scopoli, 1763, as an available name.

7. The specific proposals now submitted to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature are that it should :—

- (1) direct that the suppression of new names in the work by J. B. Bohadsch published in 1761 under the title *De Quibusdam Animalium marinis* effected under its *Opinion* 185 is not to be taken as involving the suppression of the name *Argus* Bohadsch, 1761, for the purposes of the Law of Homonymy;
- (2) place the name *Argus* Bohadsch, 1761, suppressed under *Opinion* 185 for the purposes of the Law of Priority but, under the direction given in (1) above, not for those of the Law of Homonymy, on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology*;
- (3) place on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* the name *Lysandra* Hemming, 1933 (type species, by original designation : *Papilio coridon* Poda, 1761), with a note that it is so placed for use by workers who consider that the type species of the genus so named is generically distinct from *Papilio icarus* Rottemburg, 1775, the type species of *Polyommatus* Latreille, 1804 (a name already placed on the *Official List of Generic Names*);
- (4) place the specific name *coridon* Poda, 1761, as published in the combination *Papilio coridon* (specific name of type species of *Lysandra* Hemming, 1933) on the *Official List of Specific Names in Zoology*;
- (5) place the emendation *corydon* of the name *coridon* Poda, referred to in (4) above (being an Invalid Emendation not now in current use), on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology*.

SUPPORT FOR THE HEMMING/DOS PASSOS PROPOSAL FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF THE GENERIC NAME "ARGUS" SCOPOLI, 1763 (CLASS INSECTA, ORDER LEPIDOPTERA)

By N. D. RILEY, C.B.E.
(*British Museum (Natural History) London*)

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)714)

(Letter dated 7th November 1952)

I should like warmly to support the application that you are making to the Commission in relation to the generic name *Argus* Bohadsch, 1761. Although there might be sentimental reasons for trying to keep such a generic name in the LYCAENIDAE, one of the features of which is their eye-spots, yet to do so at this late stage by allowing *Argus* Scopoli, 1763, to be resurrected after an interment on nearly two hundred years would be to cause far greater confusion in this popular group of insects than can be contemplated with equanimity. Though perhaps the suppression of *Lysandra*, a comparatively recently introduced name, might not cause much confusion, the loss of the old and well-known name *Polyommatus* Latreille would certainly be serious.

**PROPOSED USE OF THE PLENARY POWERS FOR THE
PURPOSE OF VALIDATING THE SPECIFIC NAME
"MINIMUS" MILLER (J. S.), 1826, AS PUBLISHED IN THE
COMBINATION "BELEMNITES MINIMUS" (CLASS
CEPHALOPODA, ORDER DIBRANCHIA)**

By H. H. SWINNERTON, D.Sc.
(*Nottingham, England*)

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)823)

The name *Belemnites minimus*, or more recently *Neohibolites minimus*, is in general current use for a belemnite of widespread and common occurrence in the Gault and Red Chalk (Cretaceous, Albian) of England and Northwest Europe. The name is also used eponymously in stratigraphical geology, e.g. the *minimus* Marls of Speeton, Yorkshire; the "argiles à *minimus*" of France; the "*minimus* Thon" of Northwest Germany. The species is further one of the standard fossils used in teaching palaeontology to students.

2. The name *Belemnites minimus* is commonly attributed to Martin Lister, but his usage (1678: *Historia animalium Angliae* : 227, pl. xxvii, fig. 32) was pre-Linnean and polynominal. He was describing a species from the Red Chalk of Lincolnshire which is the same as that for which the name is now used.

3. The first available name given to this species is *Belemnites listeri* G. A. Mantell (1822: *The Fossils of the South Downs; or Illustrations of the Geology of Sussex* : 88, pl. xix, figs. 17, 18, 23). The combination *Belemnites minimus* was first used binomially four years later by J. S. Miller (1826, *Trans. geol. Soc. Lond.* (2) 2 : 62, pl. ix, fig. 6), who cited *B. listeri* Mantell in his synonymy. *B. minimus* Miller and *B. listeri* Mantell are thus synonymous names for one species and they are so accepted by specialists.

4. Although there has recently been an increasing tendency for *B. listeri* Mantell to be adopted, the name *B. minimus* has been used in 48 out of 57 post-Linnean references to the species quoted by von Bülow-Trummer (1920: *Fossilium Catalogus I*, part 11 : 159). It is quoted as *B. listeri* in six of these references and in two as *B. attenuatus* Sowerby (J. de C.). A well-known work of reference on dibranchiate cephalopods also uses the specific name *minimus* (Naef (A.), 1926, *Die Fossilien Tintenfische*, Jena : 255).

5. In view of this evidence for the preponderant usage of the specific name *minimus*, it is held desirable that this name (as published in the combination *Belemnites minimus* by Miller (J. S.), 1826) should be stabilised as the name to be used for this common fossil species. It is therefore requested that the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature should :—

(1) use its Plenary Powers for the purpose of suppressing the specific name *listeri* Mantell, 1822, as published in the combination

Belemnites listeri, for the purposes of the Law of Priority but not for those of the Law of Homonymy;

(2) place the specific name *listeri* Mantell, 1822, as published in the combination *Belemnites listeri* and as proposed, in (1) above, to be suppressed under the Plenary Powers, on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology*;

(3) place the specific name *minimus* Miller (J. S.), 1826, as published in the combination *Belemnites minimus*, on the *Official List of Specific Names in Zoology*.

**SUPPORT FOR DR. J. PACLT'S PROPOSAL TO VALIDATE THE GENERIC NAME
"MELANARGIA" MEIGEN, 1828 (CLASS INSECTA, ORDER LEPIDOPTERA)**

By ERICH. M. HERING

(*Zoologisches Museum der Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany*)

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)708)

(For Dr. Paclt's application see 1954, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 9 (7); 221-222)

(Letter dated 18th May 1954)

Es ist dringend zu wünschen, da dieser seit mehr als 100 Jahren fast ausschließlich allein gebrauchte Name *Melanargia* auf die *Official List* gesetzt wird, zumal er durch die auffallende Erscheinung der Art besonders weitgehend Eingang in allgemeine Werke, Lehr- und Handbücher gefunden hat. Der Vorschlag von Dr. J. Paclt entspricht besonders der Forderung der Präambel der künftigen *Revidierten Regeln* auf Stabilität und Universalität der Nomenklatur, denen alle anderen Vorschriften unterzuordnen seien.

**COMMENT ON PROFESSOR HOBART M. SMITH'S PROPOSAL RELATING TO THE
GENERIC NAME "PALMATOTRITON" SMITH, 1945 (CLASS REPTILIA, ORDER
CAUDATA)**

By CURTIS W. SABROSKY

(United States Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service,
Entomology Research Branch, Washington, D.C., U.S.A.)

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)594)

(For Professor Smith's application see 1954, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 9 (8) : 247-249)

(Extract from a letter dated 9th July 1954)

Although I am not a herpetologist, I am prompted by the general principle involved to comment on Hobart M. Smith's "Proposed Use of the Plenary Powers to Suppress *Palmatotriton* Smith 1945" (*Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 9 : 247-249).

It was specifically to prevent the validation of names in such an inadvertent manner (cf. Minutes of Nomenclature Section of the Budapest Congress) that Article 25 was amended at Budapest in 1927, not only by requiring, for generic names, the designation of a genotype (Article 25, c. 3) but also by requiring (Article 25, c. 1) a summary of characters for the taxon concerned.

It appears to me that the latter proviso is the critical one in the case of *Palmatotriton*. The article in question contains no summary of the characters of the genus *Palmatotriton*, nor is the latter published "with a statement in words indicating the characters of the genus . . . concerned" (*Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 4 : 71, revised wording for proviso 1). The species *rufescens* is briefly described as a "small, broadfooted species about two inches long" but there is no generic characterization.

Accordingly, I do not believe that *Palmatotriton* has any status as of Smith (1945). To give it any recognition, by using the Plenary Powers to suppress it, would in my opinion be a retrogressive step in our long struggle to raise the level of taxonomic work.

**SUPPORT FOR PROFESSOR HOBART M. SMITH'S PROPOSAL RELATING TO THE
GENERIC NAME "PALMATOTRITON" SMITH, 1945 (CLASS REPTILIA, ORDER
CAUDATA)**

By ROBERT MERTENS

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(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)594)

(Letter dated 22nd July 1954)

Mit den von Dr. H. M. Smith auf p. 249 des 1954, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 9, 8 veröffentlichten drei Vorschlägen über die Gattung *Palmatotriton* Smith, 1945, und den Species-Namen *rufescens* Cope, 1869, bin ich durchaus einverstanden.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE

Specialists proposing either to submit applications to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature or to furnish comments on applications by other specialists are reminded that the Commission possesses no whole-time staff and that much time which might be devoted to other work for the Commission will be saved if they will be so good as to submit applications or comments in duplicate, typewritten, double-spaced, on one side of the page only and with wide margins. The Commission's Reference Number, when known, should always be quoted.

All communications relating to the scientific work of the Commission should be addressed to FRANCIS HEMMING, C.M.G., C.B.E., Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, 28, Park Village East, Regent's Park, London, N.W.1, England.